

Maine Mathematics Achievement Level Definitions for Grades 3-8

Purpose: Mathematics achievement level definitions describe the quality of a student's responses on state-level assessments in relation to the mathematics standards for achieving Maine's *Learning Results*. These definitions also serve as the foundation for achievement level definitions for mathematics grade level expectations.

Maine state-level assessments measure the knowledge and skills of students by sampling identified standards within mathematics at the grade level assessed. Evidence includes responses to a combination of multiple-choice items and items requiring student-created responses in an "on demand" setting.

Mathematics Achievement Levels:

Exceeds the Standards – The student's work demonstrates in-depth understanding of essential concepts in mathematics, including the ability to make multiple connections among central ideas. The student's responses demonstrate the ability to synthesize information; analyze and solve difficult problems, including developing and implementing strategies, efficiently and accurately performing procedures, and recording and justifying solutions; and explain complex concepts.

Meets the Standards – The student's work demonstrates a general understanding of essential concepts in mathematics, including the ability to make connections among central ideas. The student's responses demonstrate the ability to analyze and solve problems including developing and implementing strategies, to perform procedures, and to record and explain solutions and concepts. The student's work may contain minor errors.

Partially Meets the Standards – The student's work demonstrates incomplete understanding of essential concepts in mathematics and inconsistent connections among central ideas. The student's responses demonstrate some ability to analyze and solve problems, and explain concepts. Problem solving strategies may be flawed, procedures performed inaccurately, methods not recorded and/or problems not completed.

Does Not Meet the Standards – The student's work demonstrates limited understanding of essential concepts in mathematics and infrequent or inaccurate connections among central ideas. The student's responses demonstrate minimal ability to solve problems and explain concepts. Problem solving strategies and procedures are often flawed or inappropriate and there may be many omissions.